

Appl. No. 10/722,013
Reply to Office action of 07/28/2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the above amendment, and of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-21 are pending in this case. Claims 2 and 4-7 are amended herein and claim 1 is cancelled herein. Claims 14(second occurrence)-20 are renumbered 15-21.

The originally filed claims contained two claims numbered 14. To correct the numbering of the claims, claims 14 (second occurrence)-20 are renumbered 15-21.

Applicant notes that the instant application was filed with claims 1-20. However, the disposition of original claims 9-20 was not addressed in the Office Action.

The Examiner objected to claims 2-8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 2, 5 and 7 are rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2-8 are allowable.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitani (JP 60148163) in view of Janning (U.S. Patent 4,667,217). Claim 1 is cancelled.

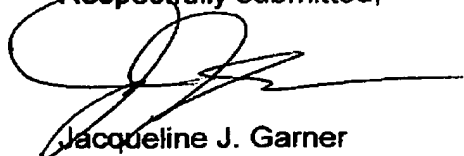
The other reference cited by the Examiner has been reviewed, but is not felt to come within the scope of the claims as amended.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 2-21. If the Examiner has any questions or other

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correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Respectfully submitted,



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